

A SHORT SKETCH
OF
MAHARAJA SUKHOY ROY BAHADUR
AND
HIS FAMILY

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with best compliments

OF

Raymond Lorraine Roy

JORASANKO RAJBATI, CALCUTTA.

Dated the 15th April 1932.



Raja Desendro Narun Roy.

Born 1847.

Died 1915.

PREFACE.

In the following pages, an attempt has been made to give a brief account of an ancient and historic family of our province. Very few of the aristocratic houses of Bengal can look back upon ancestors who flourished in the days of Lord Clive and who have been favoured with Sanads from the Emperors of Delhi. The unparalleled loyalty and the single-minded devotion to the British Raj shown by the noble founder of the family invest it with historical associations. The long series of benefactions which emanated from time to time from the various members of this illustrious family will deeply impress everybody with sentiments of more than common respect for the character of the noble benefactors. The narrative contained in these pages is offered as a demonstration of the truth of this assertion.

B. M. C.

CALCUTTA, *the 5th August, 1910.*



GENEALOGICAL TABLE.

LAKSHMI KANTA DHAR.

MAHARAJA MATA PARIATTI DASI (MARRIED TO RAGHUNATH PAL)

MAHARAJA SUKHMOWY ROY BHALADUR.

Maharajah Ram Chunder Roy Bhaladur, Raja Krisna Chunder Roy Bhaladur, Raja Balu'n Nath Roy Bhaladur, Raja Sita Chunder Roy Bhaladur, (Died childhood), Raja Narsing Chunder Roy Bhaladur

Raja Raj Narin Roy.

Raja Raj Kisen Roy.

Raja Kali Kisen Roy.

Raja Raj Kumar Roy.

Raja Prejendu Narin Roy, Kumar Jagabinda Roy, Kumar Sambas Roy.

Raja Deendu Narin Roy, Kumar Manohar Chunder Roy.

Topa Chunder Roy.

Kumar Dewali Chunder Roy.

Kumar Nagen Nath Roy.

Kumar Balu'a Prawd Roy.

Bhalu Prawd Roy.

Ravi Prawd Roy.

Janendra Nath Roy, Purapati Nath Roy, Jitendra Nath Roy.

Abuloch Roy.

Biswamith Roy.

Topa Chunder Roy.

Jitendra Nath Roy.

Purapati Nath Roy.

Jitendra Nath Roy.

Kartick Chunder Roy, Debroy Lall Roy, Peury Lall Roy, Guruchand Roy.

Debroy Lall Roy.

Dabal Chund Roy.

Sanketu N. Roy, Jitendu N. Roy, Aditya N. Roy.

Birendu N. Roy, Kailashdu N. Roy.

Sanketu N. Roy, Jitendu N. Roy, Aditya N. Roy.

Sanketu N. Roy.

A SHORT SKETCH
OF
**Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur
and his family.**

IN days long gone by, the site on which stands the glorious City of Palaces, was occupied by three of the most insignificant marshy and malarious villages that ever stood on the banks of the Ganges. These villages were then named Kalikata, Sutanati and Gobindapur. When the English merchants, who had settled at Hugly, left that place, under circumstances with which the reader of history is fully familiar, they selected the above named villages for their residence and their central place of business in Bengal. At this time a number of Indian Bankers of the Subarnabanik caste, who were in terms of close intimacy with the English settlers of Hugly, decided to follow them to their new abode. With their inborn intelligence and natural shrewdness for which the Subarnabaniks of Bengal are so very remarkable, they clearly perceived that the industry and enterprise of the English people would transform insignificant villages into a great commercial centre. They saw before them immense possibilities of amassing wealth

and great opportunities too—opportunities which they could ill-afford to neglect. Amongst these Bankers who came to Calcutta and settled there with their English friends, LAKSHMIKANTA DHAR was the richest and most influential. He was popularly known as NAKU DHAR. The original home of the DHAR FAMILY (afterwards known as the ROY FAMILY) was Saptagram which was once a great inland port of Bengal during Hindu Rule and which was once a great centre of Vaisnavism during Islamic regime. Lakshmkanta was the Calcutta founder of the ancient and historic family which goes by the immortal name of MAHARAJA SUKHOY ROY BAHADUR, a man of simple and unostentatious habits with deeply religious tone pervading his whole character,—he was ever ready to stretch his protecting hand over the suffering humanity. His charities were as boundless as his wealth was immense. In the early days of the East India Company he was to them what Juggut Sett was to the Nawabs of Murshidabad. On the eve of the Battle of Plassey when the fate of the English settlers of Bengal was trembling in the balance, when the terrible massacre of Black Hole sent a thrill of horror through the heart of every Englishman, when Clive was maturing his plan of revenge for the Tragedy of Black Hole and, if possible, to lay the foundation of a British Empire in India, when England was almost a year's journey from India and the financial credit of the East India Company was well nigh negligible, it was the Subarnabanki Banker Lakshmkanta who freely and unreservedly opened his purse and financed Lord Clive willingly and ungrudgingly. Again during the First Maratha

War, Lakshmikanta with feelings of loyalty unparalleled in the annals of Bengal, came forward with the magnificent offer of a pecuniary aid of nine lakhs of rupees towards the expenses of the war, which it is said, was most thankfully accepted. He was on the best of terms with Lord Clive and Warren Hastings. The invaluable services rendered to the East India Company, was the outcome of a noble sense of unflinching loyalty, untarnished by any mercenary motive. This is evidenced by the fact that he actually refused the title of Maharaja which a grateful Government offered him and when he pressed very hard proposed his grandson's name for the honour. It was not only the pecuniary aid which the East India Company sought from him, but they asked him for good and trustworthy men, whenever occasion required. It is said that the present Sovabazar Raj Family owes its wealth, position and influence mainly to him, for he it was who introduced Naba Kissen, a Munshi in his employ, to Lord Clive and thus put him on the way to rank, wealth and fortune. This Munshi Naba Kissen was afterwards Raja Naba Kissen, the founder of the great Sovabazar Raj Family. It is hardly necessary to mention that Lakshmikanta's death was lamented by all sections of people and the East India Company lost in him a true and devoted friend.

Lakshmikanta left no male issue but had a daughter named Parbati. She was endowed with many excellent qualities of head and heart. She was so brought up as to become a loving daughter, a devoted wife and a pure and noble example. She inherited the charitable disposition of her father and was in all

respects the worthy daughter of a worthy father. She was the mother of SUKHOY ROY, the only surviving grandson and the sole heir to the princely fortune left by Lakshmikanta. As her son became a Maharaja Bahadur, she was known as Maharaja-mata Parbati Dasi. By her will she left a sum of Rs. 40,000/- towards the construction of the Cossipur Gun Foundry Ghat and the road leading from it to Dum-Dum. This work was executed by her two grandsons, (the sons of Maharaja Sukhmoi Roy) Raja Baidyanath and Raja Nursing Chunder, the former taking the leading part. By the same will she made a further bequest of Rs. 30,000/- in aid of the Native Hospitals.

The most illustrious member of this great and ancient family was, however, MAHARAJA SUKHOY ROY. He was a man of whom it may well be said that "even his failings leaned to virtue's side." He was ready to open his purse for any tale of distress and throughout his life he acted according to the noble principle that it is in our trust over the poor and the oppressed that we feel the presence of the Supreme Being. Among his many works of public utility the *Cuttack Road* which he constructed at an immense cost, is the one which apart from anything else, has kept his name engraved in the hearts of his countrymen—a name which posterity will not willingly let die. He was distinguished for his unflinching loyalty and His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Delhi, in appreciation of his loyalty and philanthropy, conferred on him the title of MAHARAJA BAHADUR and the post of 'Char Hazari' or permission to command over four thousand men. He was further

permitted to use a Palkie with fringes round it—a very high honour in those days. (See Appendix A).

In the same Sanad his eldest son Ram Chunder was made a Raja Bahadur with command over two thousand men. The fame of his philanthropy travelled beyond the limits of his own country, so much so that His Majesty the Shah of Persia sent him a Purwana through the "Board of Control" conferring on him the same title that was granted to him by the Emperor of Delhi. In recognition of his loyal services the East India Company acknowledged the title of MAHARAJA BAHADUR, which he already received from the Emperor of Delhi. This was during the administration of the Marquis of Hastings. Lord Hastings also favoured him with certain hereditary concessions for making pilgrimage to the temple of Juggernath (See Appendix B). So great was his prestige and influence that the Government was always anxious to offer him every facility and comfort during his pilgrimage. (See Appendix C).

It will not be out of place here to say a few words as to the CUTTACK ROAD which is the immortal work of Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy. This famous Grand Trunk Road was constructed long before the days of Railways and soon became of immense importance. It traverses a distance of two hundred and eighty miles from Uluberia to Puri Singdarwaja. Brick-built Dharamsalas were built as rest-houses for pilgrims at Barang on the river Katjuri and at Atharanala on the river Konchi in the District of Puri, at Tongi near the bank of the

Mahanadi, at Akhuapada on the river Baitarini and another on the river Brahmoni in the District of Cuttack, at Bhadrak on the river Salundi, at Soro on the river Kansbans, at Balasore on the river Baraballang, at Khunta Basta on the river Jalka and at Bajghat on the river Subarnarekha in the District of Balasore, at Dantoon, at Serampore, at Debra on the river Cossaji, at Kola on the river Rupnarayan, and at Chanditala on the river Damodar. Every Dharamsala was built pucca throughout and consists of two very spacious rooms, one a large hall and another a massive room sub-divided into a large number of compartments to accommodate different families. Every building was provided with a courtyard and a tank and trees were planted in the courtyard and on all sides of the building. Each Dharamsala could accommodate more than five hundred pilgrims. In the days long before the construction of Railways, these Dharamsalas were the only places of shelter for the pilgrims proceeding to and from Puri. Numerous bridges were also constructed all along the road, some of them being very costly. These bridges were replaced by the British Government with big waterways about the year 1864 just before the Orissa Famine of 1866. Some of these Dharamsalas are yet in existence. Each occupied an area varying from three to five acres of land and all these areas were recorded rent free in the Provincial Settlement of 1840. Besides these Dharamsalas hundreds of small wells were constructed by the side of the Juggernath Road (now called the Grand Trunk Road) at a distance of two to four miles each. In the Balasore District alone there are at least forty, such wells which have been lately

repaired by the generous-hearted and public-spirited Zamindar Raja Baikuntha Nath Deb Bahadur.

By his will along with numerous bequests and legacies he left a sum of Rs. 15,000/- to meet the expenses for the entertainment of strangers of the "Koonja" at Brindaban Dham and another sum of Rs. 15,000/- for expenses relating to the worship of Gopaljeu at Suttobadi.

Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy was the only Bengali Director of the Bank of Bengal when it was first established. (The "Statesman" dated the 3rd January, 1909 : page 6 : column 5).

• Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur died on the 19th January, 1811, leaving five sons *viz* :—

1. Raja Ram Chunder Roy Bahadur.
2. Babu Krishna Chunder Roy.
3. Babu Baidya Nath Roy.
4. Babu Siva Chunder Roy.
5. Babu Narsing Chunder Roy.

RAJA RAM CHUNDER ROY BAHADUR was the eldest son of Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur. He received the title of MAHARAJA BAHADUR and the post of a personal command over four thousand men and four thousand horsemen from the Emperor of Delhi in 1189 Hijri (1811 A.D.). He was further permitted to use a Palkie with fringes round it. (See Appendix D.)

Before this, during the life time of his father, he received the title of RAJA BAHADUR by the same Sana'd whereby his father was made MAHARAJA BAHADUR. He inherited the liberal and philanthropic instincts of his

noble father and did many works of public utility. Lord Amherst was pleased to grant him a passport on the occasion of his going to Gaya and other places of pilgrimage. (See Appendix E.) He was also allowed by Government to retain four armed attendants. (See Appendix F.) He died on the 24th May, 1825.

Maharaja Ram Chunder Roy Bahadur's son Raj Narain Roy was by courtesy called a Raja. He died at an early age on the 23rd April, 1831, and could not therefore receive any title from Government. His son Brojendro Narain Roy also died a premature death in November 1858, and was popularly called a Raja.

RAJA DENENDRO NARAIN ROY was the only son of Raja Brojendro Narain Roy and the representative of the eldest branch of the distinguished family of Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur. The untimely death of his father and grand-father left the estate to which he succeeded in a state of hopeless confusion, which was only saved and since greatly improved by his extraordinary abilities and hard work. He got a charming personality and no one could leave his presence without being impressed by his courtesy and good manners. He was all attention to his visitors and in this respect there was to him no distinction between the rich and the poor, between the high and the low. In this connection it will not perhaps be out of place to remark that many of our rich men are sadly wanting in this noble quality, and Raja Denendro Narain's conduct may well be an example to them. Like his great ancestors he was simple and unassuming in his habits as well as deeply religious. The

philanthropic instincts of his noble forefather were also not wanting in him. He made a gift of three pieces of land to the Corporation,—two at Garpar and another at Sikdarpara (Jorasanko) to open out municipal roads for the public, the first of which has been named after him as Raja Dinendro Street and the second after his grand-father Raja Raj Narain Roy, and the other which passes through Sikdarpara after the name of his father Raja Brojendro Narain Roy. The first three pieces of land measuring about two bigahs and seven cottas were worth at least Rs. 27,000/- at the time when he parted with them and the last one passing through Sikdarpara was valued at about Rs. 5,000/-. He was a man born with a literary taste, and whenever he was at leisure, he spent his time in reading, a trait of character unfortunately very rare among our rich people. Government was pleased to confer on him the special title of "KUMAR" in 1893 (See Appendix G) and the title of RAJA in 1914 in consideration of his loyalty and his public services in various capacities. (See Appendix H for the Sanad of the title of Raja). He was accorded an welcome address by the members of the 'Subarnabanik Samaj' on the occasion of his being made a Raja (See Appendix I). Before this signal honour was done to him by the Government, he was presented with a Certificate of Honour on the occasion of his Majesty's Coronation Durbar at Delhi in 1911 (See Appendix J). Besides these he also received other honours such as the certificate of Exemption (Act XI of 1878) from the Arms Act as early as 1894 when he was still a Kumar and not a Raja. (Appendix K). He was then allowed three retainers the number of which was

increased to eight in later days, when he was further honoured with the title of Raja. (See Appendix L).

Raja Denendro Narain Roy was a member of the Bengal Legislative Council from 1914 to 1915, an elected Municipal Commissioner of the Calcutta Corporation from 1882 to 1914 and was a nominated Commissioner in 1915. He was for several years a member of its General Committee formerly known as the Town Council. For about two years, from 1902 to 1904, he was a Port Commissioner of Calcutta and for about thirty years from 1886 to 1915 he was an Honorary Presidency Magistrate. He was a member of the British Indian Association and was once one of its Vice-Presidents. For some years he was an active and useful member of the Executive Committee of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and a member of the Executive Committee of the Subarnabanik Charitable Association. From 1889 to 1890 he was a member of the Indian Committee of the Calcutta District Charitable Society. In 1901 he was appointed its Honorary Joint Secretary and in 1903 its Honorary Secretary. In 1904 he was elected its President and *Ex-Officio* Vice-President of the District Charitable Society. He held this post up to the day of his death.

At the Durbar held on the 18th December, 1914, on the Government House Ground by His Excellency Lord Carmichael, Governor of Bengal, His Excellency's speech to Raja Denendro Narain Roy :—

"I congratulate you very heartily on having received the title of Raja as a personal distinction. You represent

a very ancient family, being a direct descendant of Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur. The title of "Kumar" was specially conferred upon you in 1893 in recognition of your loyalty and public services. You have been for many years an elected Commissioner of the Calcutta Corporation, enjoying the confidence of successive chairman as well as the respect alike of your colleagues in the Corporation and of the ratepayers. The Corporation has shown its confidence in you by selecting you as its representative in the Bengal Legislative Council. You have taken an interest in numerous institutions of public utility in Calcutta. I sincerely trust that you may long be spared to continue to do good and useful work."

Raja Denendro Narain Roy was born in 1847 and died on the 26th August, 1915.

After his death a public meeting was held under the presidency of the Hon'ble Mr. P. C. Lyon, I.C.S., C.S.I., C.I.E., at the Calcutta University Institute on the 11th September, 1915, and according to the resolution passed at the meeting a considerable amount of public subscription was raised for the purpose of erecting a suitable memorial and for starting a fund in the name of the Raja for the relief of the poor and distressed of the city. This resolution was carried into effect. Thus a marble Bust of the public-spirited Raja was erected at the Calcutta Town Hall and was unveiled by Sir Evan Cotton, Kt., the then President of the Bengal Legislative Council. (See appendix M.) A public fund was created from the amount which was handed over to the

Indian Committee of the District Charitable Society to help the Indian poor.

KUMAR RAJENDRO NARAIN ROY is the only son of Raja Denendra Narain Roy, born on the 18th September, 1883. He has inherited in an eminent degree the noble qualities of his father. Like his father he possesses a charming personality, good manners, and excellent character. Thus it was quite befitting that the special title of "KUMAR" was conferred upon him by the Government after his father was made a Raja in the year 1914. (See Appendix N). Kumar Rajendro Narain has followed in the wake of his noble father, and like him, he is a man of manifold activities. He never spares himself whenever any matter of public utility comes within his perview. He has been a member of the Indian Committee of the District Charitable Society since 1904, its Honorary Joint-Secretary from 1913 to 1923 and Honorary Secretary since 1923. He has been a member of the District Charitable Society since 1915. Being actively associated with this Society he whole-heartedly devotes himself to its work and in this connection is always sympathetic with the poverty-stricken people of his country. He contributed Rs. 10,500/- to the Indian Committee of the District Charitable Society for the creation of a permanent fund in his name for them. Kumar Rajendro Narain is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Orphanage and a member of the Blind School and the "Deaf and Dumb" School. He has been a member of the British Indian Association since 1915, Honorary Treasurer of the said Association since 1928 and is a Life-Member of the India



Kumar Rajendra Narain Roy.



Club and a member of the Hindu School Managing Committee. Besides, he has been an Honorary Magistrate of the Sealdah Police Court since 1910 and Honorary Presidency Magistrate since 1916. These are only a few instances of public service among many in which he has whole-heartedly devoted himself. Kumar Rajendro Narain has been blessed with six sons, *viz.*, Sailendro Narain, Birendro Narain, Kshitindro Narain, Surendro Narain, Jitendro Narain and Aditya Narain. They are the worthy sons of their worthy father and are endowed with those noble qualities of head and heart which eminently befit them to be members of the illustrious family to which they belong. Their charming behaviour, modesty and good manners cannot but impress one who happens to meet them. Although born of a rich and aristocratic family they never neglect education like many others belonging to such families.

SAILENDRO NARAIN ROY, the eldest son of Kumar Rajendro Narain is a graduate of the Calcutta University and is now prosecuting his further studies in M.A. and Law, while his second son BIRENDRO NARAIN ROY passed the I.Sc. Examination from the Presidency College and is now preparing for the B.A. degree. His other sons are now reading at the Hindu School and seem to be very promising in their studies.

Raja Krishna Chunder Roy Bahadur, the second son of Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur, died childless in December 1828.

RAJA BAIDYA NATH ROY BAHADUR was the third son of Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur. He

possessed all the hereditary qualities of his family in a remarkable degree. He was a man of liberal and enlightened views. His manners were affable, and his character was without stain. In consideration of his devoted loyalty and extensive charities he was invested with the title of RAJA BAHADUR by Lord Amherst, who was pleased to present him a gold medal and a sword. He made a magnificent donation of Rs. 50,000/- (fifty thousand) to the Hindu College Fund. (See the Presidency College Register, Calcutta). He contributed Rs. 20,000/- (twenty thousand) to the Native Female Education Fund initiated by the late lamented Miss Wilson, Rs. 8,000/- (eight thousand) towards the construction of the Karmanasha Bridge and Rs. 6,000/- (six thousand) to the Zoological Society of London, for which he was honoured with a highly complimentary note from the Most Noble the Marquis of Lansdowne, accompanied with a diploma of the London Zoological Society. (See Appendix O).

It is said that he surpassed all his wealthy townsmen in his extensive private charities which were not limited by any consideration of caste, creed or colour. He gave a grand reception to Lord Combermere when the noble Lord came back to Calcutta crowned with laurels of victory from the Bharatpur War. He died in 1860 leaving two sons Kumar Raj Kissen and Kumar Kali Kissen.

RAJA RAJKISSEN ROY was succeeded by his two sons, Kumar Joy Gobind Roy and Kumar Sham Das Roy. Kumar Joy Gobind Roy was succeeded by his son Kumar Monohar Chunder Roy. Ashutosh Roy, the son

of Monohor Chunder, was one of the present representatives of this branch of the family. He was intelligent, possessed of great abilities and had greatly improved his estate by his excellent management. He was very, quiet and unostentatious in his habits, traits of character, quite in keeping with the characters of his great and illustrious ancestors. It was a pleasure to know him, so charming were his manners. He died a premature death leaving a son Biswanath Roy. Biswanath is now an I.Sc. student of the Presidency College and is known for his manysided qualities befitting the illustrious family to which he belongs. Kumar Sham Das Roy was succeeded by his four sons, Kartic Chunder Roy, Behary Lal Roy, Peary Lal Roy and Gora Chand Roy.

RAJA KALI KISSEN ROY was the youngest son of Raja Baidya Nath. He was not slow to give early, indications of his philanthropy and public spirit. He established the first Anglo-Vernacular Grant-in-aid School at Paikpara, which he maintained single-handed for many years. He gave a magnificent donation of five thousand rupees to the North Suburban Hospital at Cossipur when it was first established, besides a monthly, subscription of one hundred rupees for its maintenance. In 1874 he gave a grand reception to His Excellency the Right Honourable Lord Napier of Magdala, in honour of His Excellency's arrival in Calcutta, during the administration of Lord Auckland. Both Lord Hardinge and the Earl of Elgin gave him the privilege of wearing his father's gold medal and sword on all public occasions.

Raja ~~Kumar~~ Kali Kissen died in 1879 leaving two sons, Daulat Chandra Roy and Nagar Nath Roy. Conspicuous

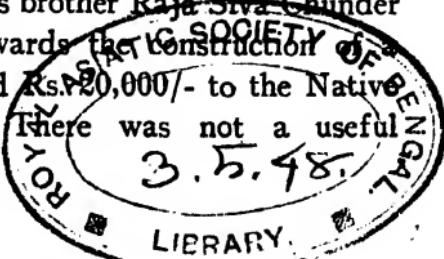
for his hereditary loyalty and public spirit and possessing in an eminent degree the virtues of his great ancestors, Kumar Daulat Chandra was the very type of a perfect gentleman. His character was excellent, his manners simple yet dignified, and to relieve the wretched was his pride. His charities were extensive. He allowed the use of a piece of land with a pucca building thereon for one of the North Suburban Police Stations, free of rent. It has been located in his garden for over thirty years. He made an endowment under which a gold medal was to be annually awarded to the student who would stand first in the F.A. Examination of the Calcutta University. He made a donation of rupees one thousand to Lady Dufferin's Fund, Bengal Branch, and he contributed three thousand rupees, through Sir Alfred Croft, Late Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, to the Building-Fund of the Baranagore Victoria Grant-in-aid School, of which he was the principal patron. On various occasions, he awarded medals and bore the entire cost of prize books of the above school. He was a regular annual donor to the Calcutta District Charitable Society and a monthly subscriber to the Baranagore Girls' School maintained by the late lamented Mr. Sashipada Banerjee. All through his life he took a lively interest in the welfare of that Institution. He was a member of the British Indian Association as well as of the India Club. He was a member of the Sovabazar Benevolent Society and was one of its regular subscribers. His Excellency Lord Lansdowne was graciously pleased to permit Kumar Daulat Chandra to wear his grand-father's gold medal and sword on all public occasions. He had two sons, Tejas Chandra Roy and Satis Chandra Roy (*alias* Harish Chandra), of whom

the former predeceased his father. Tejas Chandra was a young man of brilliant promise but was unfortunately cut off by the hand of death in the prime of his life. His brother Harish Chandra was adopted by his uncle Kumar Nagar Nath Roy. Harish Chandra is the present representative of that branch of the illustrious house of Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy which traced its descent through Raja Baidya Nath. He has a son Jnanendra Nath Roy, who, it may confidently be hoped, will tread in the foot-steps of his great and worthy ancestors.

RAJA SIVA CHANDER ROY BAHADUR, the fourth son of Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy, died in 1827 leaving an adopted son Kali Kumar Mullick Roy who died childless in 1856. Siva Chander was invested with the title of **RAJA BAHADUR** by the British Government for his liberal charities and for his many acts of public utility.

RAJA NARSING CHANDER ROY BAHADUR was the fifth and the youngest son of Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur. When the vast estate of the Maharaja was divided among his sons, Raja Narsing Chunder obtained the ancient palatial family dwelling-house at Posta. He was a noble man of refined and delicate taste and his celebrated garden-house on the Grand Trunk Road, now popularly known as the Ram Lila Bagan, was a favourite resort of the fashionable people of the time. His charities were almost boundless. He and his brother Raja Siva Chunder contributed Rs. 16,700/- towards the ~~construction of~~ SOCIETY bridge (See Appendix P) and Rs. 20,000/- to the Native Hospital (See Appendix Q.) There was not a useful

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institution at that time to which he was not a liberal subscriber. In recognition of his extensive charities, his devoted hereditary loyalty to the British Government and his various works of public utility he was invested with the title of RAJA BAHADUR by Lord Amherst and was permitted to use for his conveyance a coach drawn by four horses which was a mark of high honour in those days. (See Appendix R). He was granted permission to attend the Viceroy's Durbars and Levees and the privilege to retain three armed followers—a privilege very rarely granted at that time (See Appendix S). So great was his influence and so extensive was his popularity that he was always received with the highest honour at all state functions. He made a pilgrimage to the temple of Juggernath in his grand ancestral style under a special passport granted by the Government. (See Appendix T). He died in the year 1859 leaving behind him his only son Kumar Raj Kumar Roy and a large circle of friends and admirers to mourn his loss.

RAJA RAJ KUMAR ROY was by courtesy called a Raja. He lived in a very simple style and was quite unassuming in his manners. His good heart, his generous sympathy, his spotless character and his charming manners endeared him to all who knew him. He always accommodated his many friends and acquaintances with loans, which in most cases were never repaid. He was an Honorary Presidency Magistrate and a Justice of the Peace for sometimes. (See Appendix U). He was also exempted from the

operations of the Indian Arms Act XI of 1878. (See Appendix V.) He died at a ripe old age leaving behind him his elder son Kumar Radha Prosad Roy and a grandson by his predeceased younger son Kumar Devi Prosad Roy.

KUMAR RADHA PROSAD ROY was a highly cultured noble man. Like his illustrious ancestor Maharaja Sukhmoy, any tale of distress and suffering afflicted him and he felt it his duty to afford immediate relief to the sufferer. Like his noble kinsman, Raja Denendro Narain Roy, he was accessible to all and kind to all. It may be repeated that this is a trait of character which is worthy of imitation by the representatives of wealthy families of our province, many of whom, unfortunately, are under a mistaken idea that it would be compromising their position if they accord any interview or show any kindness to their less fortunate visitors. In this respect Kumar Radha Prosad Roy's character stands out in bold relief. The amiability of his manners and the geniality of his disposition will always be affectionately remembered by those who at any time came in contact with him.

Kumar Radha Prosad was a literary man of considerable reputation. He is the author of a series of Bengali works of moral philosophy and social subjects. In his *Bijnan Kalpalatika*, *Bijnan Santi Kusum*, *Bijnan Niti Prasun*, and *Banger Bartaman Bibaha Pranali* he has discussed subjects of general importance in a language at once easy, natural and elegant. His works were warmly received by his countrymen at the time of their publication and still there is a great demand

for their reprint which will surely be duly taken notice of by his worthy son Bishnu Prosad. It is worthy of note that his works were all distributed gratis, and he himself bore the entire cost of their printing and publication.

In his philanthropy this eminent noble man fully sustained the reputation of his great ancestors. He contributed Rs. 5,000/- to the Indian Famine Fund, Rs. 5,000/- to Lumsden's Horse Fund, (See Appendix W) Rs. 5,000/- to the Transvaal War Fund, Rs. 3,000/- to the Lady Dufferin Hospital Fund, Rs. 2,500/- to the Subarnabanik Charitable Association, Rs. 750/- to the Plague Hospital, Rs. 400/- to the Bharat Sangit Samiti, Rs. 310/- to the Calcutta Orphanage, Rs. 200/- to the Puri Temple Fund, Rs. 250/- to the Queen Empress Commemoration Fund, Rs. 151/- to the Shambhunka Sanskar Fund, Rs. 200/- to the Agartala High School and he made over Rs. 600/- to the Commissioner of Police for charities. He started an educational institution teaching up to the Matriculation Standard of the Calcutta University where poor boys are exempted from payment of school-fee. He bore the entire cost of the institution when alive and it is still maintained by his executors. (See Appendix X.)

He died a premature death when he was only forty-two years of age lamented by a large circle of friends, admirers and acquaintances. Under the terms of his will his widow took an adopted son named BISHNU PROSAD ROY. He is kind-hearted, public-spirited and charitably disposed young man befitting his ancient and

well-known family. He takes a keen interest in matters concerning education. "Kumar Radha Prosad Institution" founded by his father Kumar Radha Prosad owes its success to the able guidance of Bishnu Prosad. He has himself founded a girl school known as the "Kamala Pathsala" for the proper education of the little girls and has the public spirit to bear its entire cost. It is a pleasure to note that he visited Europe and made a wide tour through many notable countries of that Continent. He is up till now the only member of this great family, who undertook such a journey. He is blessed with two sons *viz.*, Pasupati Nath and Jitendra Nath, who, we hope, will prove themselves worthy of the great family to which they belong.

Raja Raj Kumar's second son Kumar Devi Prosad Roy was a young man of brilliant promise, but died at a very early age leaving a daughter and a son Hari Prosad Roy. He also died a premature death.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

MAHAMMAD TAWAZZAN SHAH MIRZA KHURAMBUKHT
BAHADUR (may his prosperity last for
ever, O God !).

In accordance with an august order passed on Sunday the twenty-seventh of Jamadisyussani in the fourth year of His Majesty's reign corresponding with the month of Azam ninth, lunar month, by His Highness the Protector of people, of holy titles, illustrious and powerful prince, best plant in the garden of royalty, choice fruit of the tree of sovereignty, fruitful plant of the orchard of pomp and grandeur, verdant flower of the garden of everlasting fortune, shining star of the heaven of greatness and glory, precious pearl of the sea of fortune and prosperity, first and foremost hair on the forehead of religion and fortune, lustre of eyes of country and religion, approved in the sight of the Almighty Creator, included in the favours of Solomon-like powerful Emperor, splendour of the glorious and successful, lamp of the magnificent royal house, abiding place of the favours of God, rising place of the light of the imperial clemency, cause of agreement of the great sovereignty His Majesty's truly august son, planter of the flags of victory and conquest, opener of the doors of equity and justice, helper of the various fields of victory, assistant of the crusaders of the war of sovereignty, shining moon of the sky of grandeur, chosen one amongst the princes of high dignity, importer of glory to sword and pen and noble in nature, ever felicitous and master

and prince of the world and its inhabitants. It is again submitted for His Majesty's perusal and is written by Hafiz Abdul Ghani, the writer of events and list of the house, born slave in his Majesty's court, that an order has been issued to the effect that Rai Sukhmoy be promoted to the title of Maharaja Bahadur and the post of 'Char Hazaree' (command over four thousand men) and be permitted to use a Palkie with fringes around it and that his son Ram Chandra be promoted to the title of Raja Bahadur and the post of 'Do Hazaree' (command over two thousand men.) Date mentioned above in the fourth year of His Majesty's reign.

Endorsed by His Highness the Prince of the World and its inhabitants. Let it be recorded in the annals.

Grant him a Sanad dated with the month mentioned above in the fourth year of His Majesty's reign, 1135 Hijree, corresponding with the year 1757 A.D.

Seal of
Khuram Bakht Muazzam
Shah Bahadur in the year
4 of His Majesty's reign, son
of Jehandur Shah Bahadur;
heir-apparent Emperor
Shah Alam Ghazi in
the year 1132
Hijree.



APPENDIX B.

REQUESTS ON THE PART OF MAHARAJA SUKHOY AND THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S REPLIES.

Requests.

- 1st.—When either I or my son or descendants shall go to Juggernath, we and our followers should be exempted from the payment of the tax.
- 2nd.—When my Gomosthas and people carry articles for the Bhoga of Juggernath, they may be allowed to pass without paying the tax.
- 3rd.—When I go to the temple I shall be allowed to take the Parreechah-stick in my hand and that in my absence my Naib may be allowed to have the stick.
- 4th.—That my name may be inscribed in Sanskrit, Persian and Bengali languages on the bridges.
- 5th.—That with respect to the above articles the Rajah of Khoordah may not be allowed to interfere or have any control.
- 6th.—That at different places clumps of trees shall be planted.

7th.—That at Begonia a tank shall be dug and that another tank shall be dug at any other place where water may be wanting.

8th.—That if the above be approved of, a Sanad shall be granted to me and that the order be published at Puri.

'Answers.

1st.—The Governor-General-in-Council will give the necessary orders for exempting the Maharaja and his family and his and their personal attendants from the payment of the tax established on pilgrims at Juggernath.

2nd.—No tax shall be levied on the Maharaja's Gomosthas or people on this occasion.

3rd.—This request shall be complied with to the fullest extent which may be consistent with the institutions of the temple of Juggernath.

4th.—The Maharaja's name shall be inscribed on the bridges as requested and the Governor-General-in-Council will likewise adopt such further measures as shall appear best calculated to transmit the Maharaja's name to posterity, as the liberal promoter of so useful and magnificent an undertaking.

5th.—This request like the third shall be complied with to the fullest extent which may be

consistent with the institutions of the Temple.

6th.—This request shall be carried into effect.

7th—This request shall be carried into effect.

8th.—That Maharaja will consider this paper under the seal and signature of the Governor-General to be a Sanad. The necessary orders also shall be published at Puri.

(True Copy).

(Sd.) GEO. STEVENSON,

Deputy Pri. Secy. to Govt.

The 20th December, 1810.

Granted by Lord Minto with seal and signature.
The original of this order is written in Persian.

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APPENDIX C.

Translation of a Free Passport granted by the Government, to Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur.

Be it known to all the collectors of duties, watchmen, guards and keepers of the public roads that whereas at present the Honourable Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur making a pilgrimage to the temple of Juggernath and has with him the undermentioned articles and servants, and it is necessary that none of you should prevent him on account of levying duties of the road, etc., but you should let him pass with safety and protection from the respective boundaries of your jurisdiction. You should consider this order urgent.

List of articles and servants.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----------|--------------|
| Silver plates | ... | ... | 1 item. |
| Cloths and vessels of brass etc. | ... | 40 boxes. | |
| Tent | ... | ... | 1 item. |
| Jhalurdar Palkies with venetian blinds | ... | ... | 15 |
| Camel | ... | ... | 1 |
| Carriages | ... | ... | 2 |
| Horses. | ... | ... | (illegible). |
| Boxes of goods and ornaments | ... | 4 | |
| Bedsteads | ... | ... | 2 |
| Boxes containing spice, etc. | ... | 4 | |

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-------------|
| Burkandazes with Jamadars | ... | 15 |
| Lance-bearers | ... | 4 |
| Man-bearers | ... | 7 |
| Torch-bearers | ... | 7 |
| Munshi | ... | 1 |
| Clerks | ... | 2 |
| Barbers | ... | 4 |
| Hurkaras | ... | 4 |
| Sweeper | ... | 1 |
| Sepoys | ... | 2 |
| Jamadar | ... | (illegible) |

(Sd.) WELLESLEY.

Dated the 20th February, 1805.

**Translation of a Passport Granted by the
Commissioner of Orissa to Maharaja
Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur.**

Dated the 20th March, 1805.

To the watchmen, guards, collectors of duties on the roads and passes in the Province of Orissa.

Know you all whereas Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur, after performing pilgrimage, is going back from Cuttack to his native place Calcutta, it is ordered to you

that wherever he would alight you should remain present to watch and guard him, should let him pass safe and protected from your respective boundaries and each of you should supply him with a guide to take care of and show the road to him. Considering this matter to be urgent you should act in accordance with what has been written above.

(Sd.) J. MELVILE,

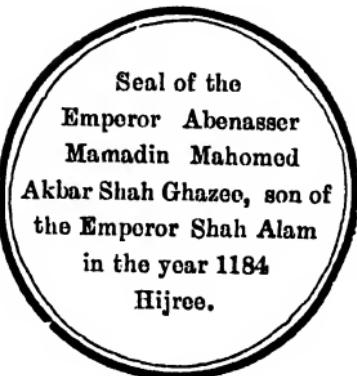
Commissioner.

APPENDIX D.

**In the Name of High and Holy God from his
Majesty the Emperor Abenasser Mamadin
Mahomed Akbar Shah Ghazee.**

In these happy days a magnificent order deserving obedience and submission has been passed by us to the effect that whereas in consequence of our complete favour and abundant graces, which are samples of the graces of God, we having bestowed on our devoted and willing servant Ram Chunder who deserves our favour and kindness, the titles of Maharaja and Bahadur and the post of a personal command of four thousand men and four thousand horsemen and having granted him the permission of using a Palkie with fringes around it, have exalted and distinguished him among our Nobles and Statesmen and among his equals and contemporaries, it is necessary that our renowned, successful and high born children, highly influential ministers, all the Statesmen of our Court and the Governors of the Provinces, considering our abovementioned devoted servant to have been exalted and honoured by us with these approved and chosen titles and posts should understand that day after day our look of favour will be increased to unlimited extent on the happy condition of the abovementioned Bahadur.

Dated the 19th Jamadiyussani in the sixth year of his
Majesty's reign, 1189 Hijree (corresponding with
1811 A.D.)



APPENDIX E.

A copy of translation of a Passport (written in Persian) granted by Government to Maharaja Ram Chunder Roy Bahadur on the occasion of his going to Gaya and other places of pilgrimage, dated the 22nd October, 1824.

To all the Collectors of duties, guards, watchmen and keepers of the roads and passes from the post of Balasore to the river Suvarnarekha.

Be it known to you all that whereas Maharaja Ram Chunder Roy Bahadur, eldest son of the late Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur is at present going from Calcutta up to Allahabad for the purpose of making a change of climate and performing his father's funeral obsequies at Gaya and other places of pilgrimage, he has with him articles, Sepoys and Burkundazes as detailed below. It is necessary that none of you should hinder or deter him on the roads and passages for the purpose of levying from him prohibited taxes, but you should protect, guard and let him pass through your respective boundaries. He should however pay without excuse the taxes fixed and made current by the laws and regulations of the Government to officers appointed in that Department. Considering this

matter to be very urgent you should act as it has been stated above.

Details of the articles, etc.

| | | |
|---|-----|---------|
| Armed Sepoys and Burkundazes | ... | 24 |
| Silver plates | ... | 1 item. |
| Wearing apparels such as Doshalahs (costly wrappers) and Roomals | | |
| (costly kerchiefs) | ... | 1 item. |

Dated, the 28th Sabar, 1202 Hijree, corresponding with the 22nd October, 1824 A.D.

(Sd.) AMHERST,

Governor-General.



APPENDIX F.

To

H. SHAKESPEAR, Esq.,
*and the other Justices of the Peace for the Town of
Calcutta.*

Judicial Department.

Gentlemen,

1. In continuation of the subject of Mr. Prinsep's letter to your address of the 20th June last, I am directed by the Hon'ble Governor-General-in-Council to transmit to you the accompanying papers from the proceedings of Government in the Persian Department under date, the 21st ultimo.
2. You will perceive from those papers that the Governor-General-in-Council has been pleased to resolve, that Raja Ram Chunder Roy be allowed to retain four armed attendants and that Babus Kissen Chunder Roy, Buddy Nath Roy, Sib Chunder Roy and Narsing Chunder Roy be allowed to retain each three armed followers.
3. You are requested to appraise Raja Ram Chunder and his brothers that Government have been pleased to grant them this indulgence and that the Governor-General-in-Council relies upon their prudence to prevent any abuse of it.

4. The name, caste and description of each of the individuals whom they may respectively propose to retain as their armed attendants, must be registered at the Police Office and similar information must be regularly communicated with regard to any individuals whom they may hereafter wish to substitute in lieu of those originally entertained.

5. If you should be of opinion that any further rules or conditions connected with the indulgence now granted to the sons of the late Raja Sukhmoy Roy are necessary or desirable, you will report your sentiments to Government, but you will not on that account suspend the immediate execution of the present instructions.

I am etc.,

(Sd.) W. B. BAILEI,

Chief Secretary to Government.

A true copy.

(Sd.) W. B. BAILEI,

Chief Secretary Government.

(Sd.) CAMPBELL.

COUNCIL CHAMBER.

The 20th March, 1823.

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(41)

(COPY).

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF
SECRETARY MR. BAILEI.

The Governor-General-in-Council has been pleased to resolve that Raja Ram Chunder Roy be allowed to retain four armed attendants and that Kristo Chunder Roy, Buddy Nath Roy, Sib Chunder Roy and Narsing Chunder Roy be allowed to retain each three armed followers. The name, caste and description of each of the individuals whom they may respectively propose to retain as their armed attendants, must be registered at the Police Office and similar information must be regularly communicated with regard to any individual whom they may substitute in lieu of those originally entertained.

Dated the 20th March, 1823.

To

Raja Ram Chunder Roy.

I am directed by the Magistrate to transmit the enclosed extract of a letter from the Chief Secretary Mr. Bailei for your information.

(Sd.) THOSLEYEN,

Clerk.

The 1st April, 1823.

APPENDIX G.

Sanad.

To

BABU DINENDRA NARAIN ROY,
*Honorary Magistrate and Municipal Commissioner
of Calcutta.*

I hereby confer upon you the title of Kumar as a personal distinction.

(Sd.) LANSDOWNE,

• *Viceroy and Governor General of India*

• FORT WILLIAM.

The 3rd February, 1893.

Seal of the
Governor-General
of India in
Council.

APPENDIX H.

Sanad.

To

KUMAR DENENDRO NARAIN ROY,
Municipal Commissioner and
Honorary Presidency Magistrate,
Calcutta.

I hereby confer upon you the title of Raja as a personal distinction.

(Sd.) HARDINGE of PENSHURST,

Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

DELHI, *the 1st January, 1914.*



APPENDIX I.

To

RAJA DENENDRO NARAIN ROY.

Dear Sir,

WE, the members of the Subarnabanik Samaj, offer you our hearty congratulations on the distinguished and well-deserved honour conferred on you by Government, to which your personal qualities and family traditions have alike entitled you. We all feel that this is an honour done not only to yourself personally but also to the community of which you are one of the trusted leaders.

WE are grateful to Government for its generous recognition of the claims of an illustrious family which has played an important part in the public life of the country. The name of MAHARAJA SUKHOY ROY BHADUR is a household word in Bengal for its many works of public utility, such as the famous Cuttack Road which he built and maintained at an enormous cost and which made him the first recipient in Bengal of the title of MAHARAJA from the British Government and brought him recognition even from the Shah of Persia. His business ability also made him the first Bengali Director of the Bank of Bengal. The mantle of the Maharaja has been worthily borne by his illustrious successors who have fully maintained the reputation of the house.

YOU, Sir, have duly maintained and contributed to that reputation by your manifold public activities. You have demonstrated your great civic virtues in various capacities. You have been a Municipal Commissioner uninterruptedly for 32 years since 1882—a rare example of the confidence of the electorate in their representation; you have also been a Port Commissioner, an Honorary Presidency Magistrate and the President of the Indian Section of the District Charitable Society, in all of which capacities you have rendered meritorious services.

In conclusion, we pray to the Almighty that many more years of health and strength be vouchsafed to you to continue your distinguished career to the benefit of your country and community.

We remain,

Dear Sir,

Yours sincerely,

The members of the Subarnabani Samaj.

CALCUTTA, the 8th February, 1914.

—

APPENDIX J.

Certificate of Honour.

By Command of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General-in-Council, this certificate is presented in the name of His Most Gracious Majesty King George V., Emperor of India, on the occasion of His Majesty's Coronation Durbar at Delhi, to Kumar Denendro Narain Roy, son of Raja Brojendro Narain Roy in recognition of his public services as Honorary Presidency Magistrate, a Municipal Commissioner and President and *Ex-officio* Vice-President of the District Charitable Society. .

(Sd.) F. W. DUKE,
Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Dated, the 12th December, 1911.

APPENDIX K.

Certificate of Exemption (ACT XI of 1878).

This is to certify that under the revised notification issued by the Government of India on the 6th March, 1879, Kumar Denendro Narain Roy with three retainers of Calcutta has been exempted from the operations of all prohibitions and directions contained in Sections 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Indian Arms Act, 1878, other than those referring to common articles designed for torpedo-service, war-rockets and machinery for the manufacture of arms and ammunition.

(Sd.) A. B. BARNARD,
Dy. Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.

Dated, the 5th December, 1894.



Deputy
Commissioner of
Police,
Calcutta.



APPENDIX L.

D. O. No. 2843 P.

Bengal Secretariat,
Calcutta.

The 5th March, 1915.

A letter from the Government of Bengal, to the Hon'ble Raja Denendro Narain Roy in connection with the raising of the number of the armed retainers.

My dear Raja,

In reply to your letter dated the 4th February 1915, I am desired to inform you that Government have been pleased to raise the number of your armed retainers from 3 to 8. Official order will be communicated to you by the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.

Yours Sincerely,

(Sd.) J. G. CUMMING.

The Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narain Roy.

(54)

No. 1869, A. A.

Telegraphic Adress
"Sanctum."

The 9th March, 1915.

Telephone No. 2352.

From

Sir Frederick Halliday, K.T., C.I.E., M.V.O.,
Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.

To

Hon'ble Raja Dinendra Narain Roy,

79, Upper Chitpore Road, Calcutta.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 909 A. A. dated the 1st February 1915, I have the honour to inform you that the Governor in Council has been pleased to grant you under clause 18(c), Schedule I to the Indian Arms rule of 1909, eight armed retainers in place of three, formerly allowed to you.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) F. HALLIDAY,

Commissioner of Police.

APPENDIX M.

The speech delivered by Sir Evan Cotton, Kt., on the occasion of the unveiling ceremony of the marble bust of the late Raja Denendro Narain Roy at the Town Hall, Calcutta, dated the 21st March, 1925.

Ladies and Gentlemen--

We are met here this afternoon to do honour to the memory of a great Bengali gentleman. The house of which Raja Denendro Narain Roy was the head has always been most closely associated with the history of the English in Bengal. We find Lakshmi Kanta Dhar, the founder of the family, following Job Charnock from Hooghly to Calcutta, and offering generous financial assistance to Clive on the eve of the battle of Plassey. The traditions of the house were nobly continued by his famous grandson Maharaja Bahadur Sukhmoy Roy, the builder of the road, which runs from Uluberia to Cuttack and which by his liberality is plentifully supplied with dharamsalas and wells for the use of pilgrims to Puri.

Raja Denendro Narain Roy was the great grandson of Sukhmoy Roy and represented the eldest branch of the family. He was born in the year 1847 and when I first came into contact with him about the year 1895 was at the height of a distinguished public career. From

1882 to 1914 he served the City as an elected member of the Corporation and it was my privilege to be his colleague from 1900 to 1906. I remember him well. He did not wear his heart upon his sleeve, as the saying goes; but the modesty and reserve which characterised him could not hide his sterling merits. He made no enemies for he was the mirror of courtesy and good breeding; and his public work, was always thoroughly and efficiently done. In him we had a fine specimen of the man who leads because he is born to lead. I hear on all sides that we are living in a democratic age. The discussion of this proposition must be left to others. I will content myself with affirming that there will always and must always be room, in any structure of society, for men of the type of Raja Denendro Narain Roy.

His activities extended far beyond the walls of the Corporation Building. He was a Port Commissioner, an Honorary Presidency Magistrate and a Vice-President of the British Indian Association. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty of Animals found in him a faithful friend, and the services which he rendered for many years to the District Charitable Society were fitly recognized by his election as President in 1904.

He received the title of "Kumar" in 1893 and was promoted to the dignity of Rāja in 1914, in which year also he became a member of the Bengal Legislative Council. It has been a joy to me on my return to Calcutta after an absence of sixteen years, to renew many friendships which were formed in early days. But I say frankly that I have missed the courtly presence and the

kindly greeting of Raja Denendro Narain Roy. I esteem it as a high honour that you have asked me to unveil the bust which you have erected here to his memory. He is, I see, surrounded by many old friends and fellow-workers: Maharaja Durga Charan Laha, Raja Binaya Krishna, Maharaja Bahadur Sir Narendra Krishna and (may I add) by my own father who held him, as I know, in the highest possible regard. May the example of unselfish public service which he set never be forgotten.

APPENDIX N.

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

**A letter from the Government of Bengal, to
Raja Denendro Narain Roy, recognising the title
of "Kumar" in the case of his son Rajendro
Narain Roy.**

To

Raja Dinendra Narain Roy,

No. 79, Upper Chitpore Road, Calcutta.

DARJEELING, the 11th May, 1914.

SIR,

With reference to your letter dated the 2nd March 1914, I am directed to say that in 1912, it was decided that the use of the Courtesy title of "Kumar" should be rightly restricted to the sons of hereditary title-holders, and no claim as of right to the privilege can be admitted in the case of the sons of the holders of personal titles. The case of your son, Rajendra Narain Roy, has however, received the special consideration of Government; and His Excellency in Council has been pleased to direct that the courtesy title of "Kumar" will be formally recognised in the case of your son, subject to the condition that the

privilege will be liable to withdrawal at the discretion of Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) J. G. CUMMING,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

APPENDIX O.

Dated LONDON, *the 16th March, 1855.*

To

RAJA BUDDY NATH ROY BAHADUR.

The Zoological Society of London

Under the Presidentship of—

The Most Noble the Marquis of Lansdowne, and

the Vice-Presidencies of His Grace the Duke of Somerset,

Right Honorable Lord Auckland,

Right Honorable Earl of Darnley,

Right Honorable Lord Stanley, M.P.,

Right Honorable Earl of Egremont,

Charles Baring Wall, Esq., M.P.,

have received with great gratification, through Major-General Thomas Hardwicke, formerly Commandant of the Hon'ble the East India Company's Bengal Artillery, the communication of your wish that yourself and your son should be admitted as Member of the Society, and having been at the same time informed of your munificent contribution to Zoological science by the maintenance of a large Menagerie, to which the most liberal access is afforded.

Having noticed also with *admiration and respect* other evidences of your *enlightened public spirit*, evinced by the donation of twenty thousand rupees to the cause of general and female education in India.

And being apprised of the distinguished honour done to your name in common with the names of four of your distinguished brothers, by the Hon'ble John Alam, late Governor-General of British India, on the construction of a Ghat and Military Road to the Cantonments of the Hon'ble Companies Artillery at Dum-Dum impressed with sentiments of more than common respect for your character by this series of benefaction, the Zoological Society recognise with pleasure, your desire to be associated with the Scientific Institutions of Great Britain, and hereby admitted you and your son Cowar Roy Rajkissen to be original members of the Zoological Society of London in record whereof this Diploma is ordered to be presented to you in your name and in that of your son Cowar Roy Rajkissen.



APPENDIX P.

Translation of an Urdu letter from the Superintendent of Bengal Roads to the address of Rajah Nursing Chunder Roy.

Dated the 15th March, 1842.

AFTER THE USUAL COMPLIMENTS.

In compliance with an order stated in a letter from His Excellency the Governor-General of India I beg to ask you whereas in the year 1826, you and your brother Rajah Shib Chunder Roy have deposited with the Secretary Culpeb(?) a sum of Rs. 10,000/- (Ten thousand) for the purpose of repairing the bridge in the road over the river Karmanasha and paying the salary of its keepers, etc., from the interest of the said sum and whereas nothing was spent out of it even after the year 1830, therefore the said sum amounting to Rs. 16,700/- (Sixteen thousand and Seven hundred) including both principal and interest, is lying in the Treasury of the Hon'ble East India Company. In the place of the bridge on the road a stone bridge has been erected by Rajah Patnimull at his own expense. Government, however, has spent Rs. 19,978-0-5 (Nineteen thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight Rupees and five pies) for the repairs of the said bridge. If you like to apply the above-mentioned deposited amount in the repairs of the said stone bridge,

viz., if you like to pay it as a part of the expenditure of Rs. 19,978-0-5 incurred by Government then an account of the generosity of you two brothers being engraved on a piece of marble may be fixed on the wall of the bridge, or else you should like to have a new bridge erected, then an iron bridge may be constructed over another river on the public road leading from Calcutta to Benares so that your name may be renowned, and I hope that after praying consideration to the two matters mentioned above you will be good enough to state quickly in reply what is agreeable to you so that I may acquaint the Military Board and Government with it.

(Sd. in English) Illegible,

Supdt., B & B Roads.

Dated the 15th March, 1842.

No. 161—Dated the 22nd July, 1842.

From

Burdwan and Benares Roads Office,

To

RAJAH NURSING CHUNDER ROY,

Calcutta.

1. I beg to annex a copy of a letter No. 1086 of the 21st June, received from the Secretary to the Military Board with reference thereto, and may I request the favour of your informing me, at your convenience, whether it would meet with approbation to lay out the

money in question (Rs. 16,700/-) in constructing a new bridge, so that the entire credit may rest with yourself.

2. In your last communication you stated that you do not wish to advance any further sum of money—but you need experience no anxiety on this point, as out of the number of bridges about to be constructed on the new road, one could be selected, the outlay in which would closely approximate with the cash now at disposal.

3. On completion of the bridge, a tablet can be fixed in the Parapet, having a suitable inscription to commemorate your liberality.

4. In the event of your approving of the foregoing proposal, I can hereafter acquaint you with the name of the river to be bridged over and forward a copy of the design for the bridge.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. A. P. Allcock, *Captain,*

Superintendent, Roads.

No. 1086.

To

The Superintendent of Roads,

Benares.

SIR,

1. I am directed by the Military Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 50 of the 30th ultimo, and

to observe that as the object of the Karmanasha Bridge the credit of which must now rest with Rajah Putnee Mull, the Board are induced to suppose that there may be some other bridge in this line of Road the cost of which would correspond nearly with the sum available and the whole credit of which might as in the case of the staging bungalows between Allahabad and Benares, rest entirely with Rajahs Sib Chunder Roy and Narsing Chunder Roy.

2. If any such arrangement can be suggested by you and should meet with the approval of Rajah Narsing Chunder Roy the Board would recommend it for sanction of Government.

3. An early reply is requested.

I have etc.,

(Sd). H. De Bude,

Secy., Military Board.

Military Board Office.

The 21st June, 1842.

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APPENDIX Q.

To

Rajah Shib Chunder Rai,
and
Rajah Nursing Chunder Rai } Bahadurs.

GENTLEMEN,

The Chief Secretary to Government having communicated to the Governors of the Native Hospital—your having presented to that Institution a donation of twenty thousand sicca rupees—I am directed by the Governor to return you their unanimous and cordial thanks for your munificent donation.

I am further instructed to inform you that the Governors have it in contemplation to bring your donation to the notice of the subscribers at their next general meeting, when no doubt your claims to being elected Governors will be recognised.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient and humble servant,

(Sd.) W. Daiorth (*illegible*),
Secretary.

NATIVE HOSPITAL,
The 21st April, 1826.

APPENDIX R.

*Translation of a Persian letter from Lord Amherst,
Governor-General of India, to Rajah Narsing
Chunder Roy Bahadur.*

(On the Envelope)

To

The Brave and high in dignity, glorious and eminent in rank, revered Rajah Narsing Chandra Roy Bahadur may be in peace.

Dated the 19th May, 1826.

Corresponding with 10th Shawal, 1204 Hijree.

(The Letter)

Brave and high in dignity, glorious and eminent in rank and revered, Peace be to you. On account of your and your ancestors' good will and loyalty proved and verified in regard to this Government, and also for the reason of your being heartily engaged and zealous in diffusing and prosecuting good, generous works, I promote you to the titles of Rajah and Bahadur and permit you to use for your conveyance a coach drawn by four horses. It is necessary for you that having returned thanks and being grateful for these great favours you should keep yourself more than before engaged and ready in showing your loyalty and good will. What further should I write?

(Sd. in English) AMHERST.

APPENDIX S.

To

Rajah Narsing Chunder Rai Bahadur.

My esteemed Friend,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge your letter, which was delivered to me on the 11th instant, and in reply, I am directed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General to inform you that His Lordship has been pleased to comply with your request to attend the Durbars as heretofore.

I remain,

With much consideration,

Your sincere friend,

(Sd.) W. H. Macnaghten,
Secretary to Government.

FORT WILLIAM,

The 22nd January, 1834.

*Translation of a Persian reply from W. H. Macnaghten,
Esq., to a letter from Rajah Narsing Chunder
Roy' Bahadur.*

Dated the 23rd January, 1834.

My dear Rajah Sahib,

I am glad to receive and understand the contents of your letter, dated the 15th instant. Whereas, your

admission in the Levee of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General has been granted and permitted as usual, I am therefore, directed by His Excellency to inform you of this matter. What shall I write further?

e

(Sd. in English) W. H. Macnaghten,

Secretary to Government.



APPENDIX T.

Translation of a Passport in Persian granted by Government to Rajah Narsing Chunder Roy Bahadur, on the occasion of his making a pilgrimage to the temple of Juggernath. Dated the 4th July, 1833, A.D. equivalent to 15 Sufur, 1211 Hijree.

To all Collectors of duties, Guards, Watchmen and Keepers of roads and passes.

Know you all that whereas Rajah Narsing Chunder Roy Bahadur is going by land from Calcutta for the purpose of making a pilgrimage at Juggernath he has with him the articles and people as detailed below. Consequently I am directed by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General to inform you that none of you should deter his progress on the roads and passages on account of levying from him improper taxes, but you should protect, guard and let him pass through your respective boundaries. He should, however, pay without excuse the taxes fixed and put in force by the laws and regulations of the Government, with officers appointed to collect them. Considering this matter to be very urgent you

should act in accordance with what has been written above.

List of articles and retainers.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|---------|
| Elephants | ... | ... | 2 |
| Horses | ... | ... | 10 |
| Gharries | ... | ... | 20 |
| Palkies | ... | ... | 16 |
| Woolen, gold embroidered and wearing cloths | ... | ... | 1 item. |
| Gold and silver plates | ... | ... | 1 item. |
| Goods and carpets &c | ... | ... | 1 item. |
| Armed men for watching and guarding | ... | ... | 100 |

Dated the 4th July, 1833 A. D.

Equivalent to 15 Sufar, 1211 Hijree.

Seal of the
Government
of India.

(Sd.) W. H. MACNAGHTEN,

Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX U.

No. 1834 B., Judicial.

From

E. H. Lushington, Esqr.,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To

Kumar Rajkumar Roy,
Pathuriaghata.

Sir.

1. The Lieutenant-Governor having been informed that you are willing to lend your services to Government and being assured of your fitness for the discharge of the duties of the office, has been pleased to appoint you an Honorary Magistrate of Calcutta.
2. Instructions will be communicated to you by the Commissioner of Police on all points connected with your appointment.
3. Measures will be taken for the issue to you of a Commission for the Peace of the town of Calcutta.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) Ed. Were Mughoo (illegible),
for Secretary to the Government
of Bengal.

FORT WILLIAM, *the 29th July, 1861.*



APPENDIX V.

A letter from the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta,
to Coomar Raj Coomar Roy.

POLICE OFFICE, CALCUTTA,

The 5th October, 1880.

Dear Sir,

I have much pleasure in enclosing a memo, intimating
that under order of the Government of India you are
exempted from the operations of the Indian Arms Act XI
of 1878.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) H. Beverley,

Police Commissioner.

Coomar Raj Coomar Roy.

APPENDIX W.

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A Letter from Col. Lumsden,
Indian Mounted Infantry Corps,
(Lumsden's Horse),
South Africa.

CAMP, CALCUTTA, *the 12th February, 1900.*

My dear Sir,

Of the many munificent gifts made towards the equipment of my corps few have given me greater pleasure than your cheque for so handsome a sum. The material assistance, which an amount like Rs. 5,000 affords, is very considerable, but even more than the money I value the spirit which has prompted you to add your name to the list of subscribers.

It is natural that the European population of this country should report a scheme to assist the mother-country in its present need and the response, which my appeal to the public has met with, has been very satisfactory to me.

That so many native gentlemen should have so handsomely contributed was unexpected and I therefore appreciate their patriotic and loyal action all the more. I have taken the liberty of wiring to the Times in London about your handsome donation, which no doubt will be

gratefully noticed by Her Majesty, who particularly appreciates such evidence of loyalty from native gentlemen.

In conclusion, please accept on behalf of Lumsden's Horse, my most grateful thanks for your very valuable assistance and believe me,

Yours very truly,

(Sd.) D. N. LUMSDEN,

Lieut. Colonel,

Lumsden's Horse.

Kumar Radha Prosad Roy,

25, DURMAHATA STREET.

APPENDIX X.

The Press on Kumar Radha Prosad's Charities.

The Hindu Patriot, March 6, 1900.

The Government must have been pleased with the loyalty shown not only by Indian Chiefs and Princes, but also by our Calcutta millionaries during the present Transvaal War. Maharaja Sir Jatindra Mohun Tagore has contributed the liberal sum of Rs. 5,000/- towards the "Lumsden's Horse". Kumar Radha Prasad Roy has followed his noble example and has given Rs. 5,000/- also towards this fund. He is descended from one of the most ancient families of Calcutta, *viz.*, Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur. The extensive charities, which distinguished this noble man and his late son Rajah Narsing Chunder Roy Bahadur, are not known to the present generation. The former constructed at considerable expense the *Cuttuck Road*, and placed the sum of Rs. 1,50,000/- at the hands of the Government for its repairs. The late Rajah Narsing Chunder Roy contributed the munificent sum of Rs. 20,000/- to the Native Hospital here. He also placed in the hands of the Government a considerable sum of money for public works which with interest amounted to Rs. 16,000/- when it went towards the construction of the Benares Bridge. Maharaja Sukhmoy Roy Bahadur was the grandson of Babu Lukshmi Kanta Dhur who was the Dewar of Lord Clive and who gave pecuniary aid to Government by granting a loan of a large sum of

money to defray the expenses of the Mahratta War. The then Emperor of Delhi honoured Maharaja Sukhmoy by granting him the privilege of using a Nubabi palankeen with a number of followers—a distinction which in those days could only be enjoyed by a privileged few. He was the first Hindu gentleman who became the Director of the Bengal Bank. During the last Bharatpur affair, the Government took a large sum from him as loan and confirmed the title of Maharaja Bahadur previously conferred upon him by the Emperor of Delhi. In recognition of this many acts of charity the British Government conferred upon Narsing Chunder the title of Rajah Bahadur and granted the privilege of driving with four horses.

Kumar Radha Prasad is also maintaining the prestige of his family. Besides his contributions to the "Lumsden's Horse" and the Famine Fund he gives an annual subscription of Rs. 100/- to the Dufferin Fund and another of Rs. 83/- to the Calcutta Orphanage. Chorebagan School is also handsomely supported by him. He subscribed Rs. 2,000/- to the Subarnabanic Charitable Association which he supports by an additional grant of Rs. 50/- a month. The Kumar is a man of modest and retiring habit. He does not wish his name to be known to the public in connection with charity. Moreover our Kumar is a man of letters. His works on mental and moral Philosophy are well-known. A scion of one of the most renowned ancient families, a man possessed of vast fortune, a friend of the poor and the destitute, a man of letters and contributor to the national literature, the Kumar is one of the leading men of our Society. His services both to the Government and the public deserve the kind notice of the Government.

The Statesman, February 21, 1900.

Kumar Radha Prosad Roy has subscribed Rs. 5,000/- and Rs. 500/- respectively to the Lumsden's Horse and the Transvaal War Fund. The Kumar thus maintains the traditions of the ancient Hindu family from which he is descended, and who have shown their loyalty to the British Raj in many ways since the days of Lord Clive.

The Indian Mirror, March 7, 1900.

We learn that Kumar Radha Prosad Roy has contributed Rs. 5,000/- towards the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. The Kumar is becoming as liberal in his charities as his deceased grandfather the late Rajah Nursing Chunder Roy, for which he deserves thanks.

The Statesman, March 25, 1900.

Kumar Radha Prasad Roy, who lately subscribed the handsome sum of Rs. 5,000/- to the Famine Fund, and whose name is frequently heard of as a liberal contributor to various charities, has been laid by his philanthropic instinct to establish a new educational institution in which schooling will be provided free for such poor boys as are unable to pay fees. In connection with the establishment three scholarships have been founded of Rs. 12/-, Rs. 5/- and Rs. 3/- per month, respectively, each of two years duration, for the first three pupils of the school, who succeeded in passing the University Examination.

The Bengalee, February 14, 1900.

Here is another instance of a wealthy person's love of education. Kumar Radha Prosad Roy of Posta is already known to his countrymen for his authorship, patriotism and public and private charity. He has added another title of veneration to his name by establishing an educational institution at 23, Rajendro Mullick Street. The Institution is an unique one and has many salient features. Strict care is taken to inculcate sound, moral and practical lessons to the boys. The scholarships of Rs. 12/-, Rs. 5/- and Rs. 3/- will be given by the Kumar Bahadur to the first three successful candidates of the University Examination, all these scholarships being tenable for two years.

Power and Guardian, February 16, 1900.

An useful Institution:—We are glad to notice that the institution established by Coomar Radha Prosad Roy Bahadur of Posta has been recognised by the Calcutta University as a High English School teaching up to the Entrance standard. The institution has several salient features of which the grant of three monthly scholarships of Rs. 12/-, Rs. 5/- and Rs. 3/-, tenable for two years to the first three successful candidates at the University Examination, is one. We wish the Institution every success.

The Indian Daily News, May 6, 1891.

A Shraddha Ceremony :—The Rajah of Posta who died a month ago, has been duly honoured by the Shraddha Ceremony performed yesterday by his son, Kumar Radhā Prosad Roy at No. 25, Durrmahata Street. The total expenditure on the occasion is said to have exceeded Rs. 25,000/- . In accordance with the custom of the caste one gold and 15 silver *shoras* or sets of vessels were dedicated solemnly to the names of the deceased. After certain ceremonies the *shoras* cut up into different proportions were distributed to the Priests, Goswamins and Brahmins, with these were also given shawls, clothes, etc., to the number of 5,000 ; money was also distributed on the occasion to the poor in sums of four and eight annas each in the morning. Many representative members of the Hindu community were present on the occasion and there was a large number of guests, who, on arrival and departure, were courteously received by the Kumar and the members of his family. All things were done according to the custom of the caste.

THE END.



